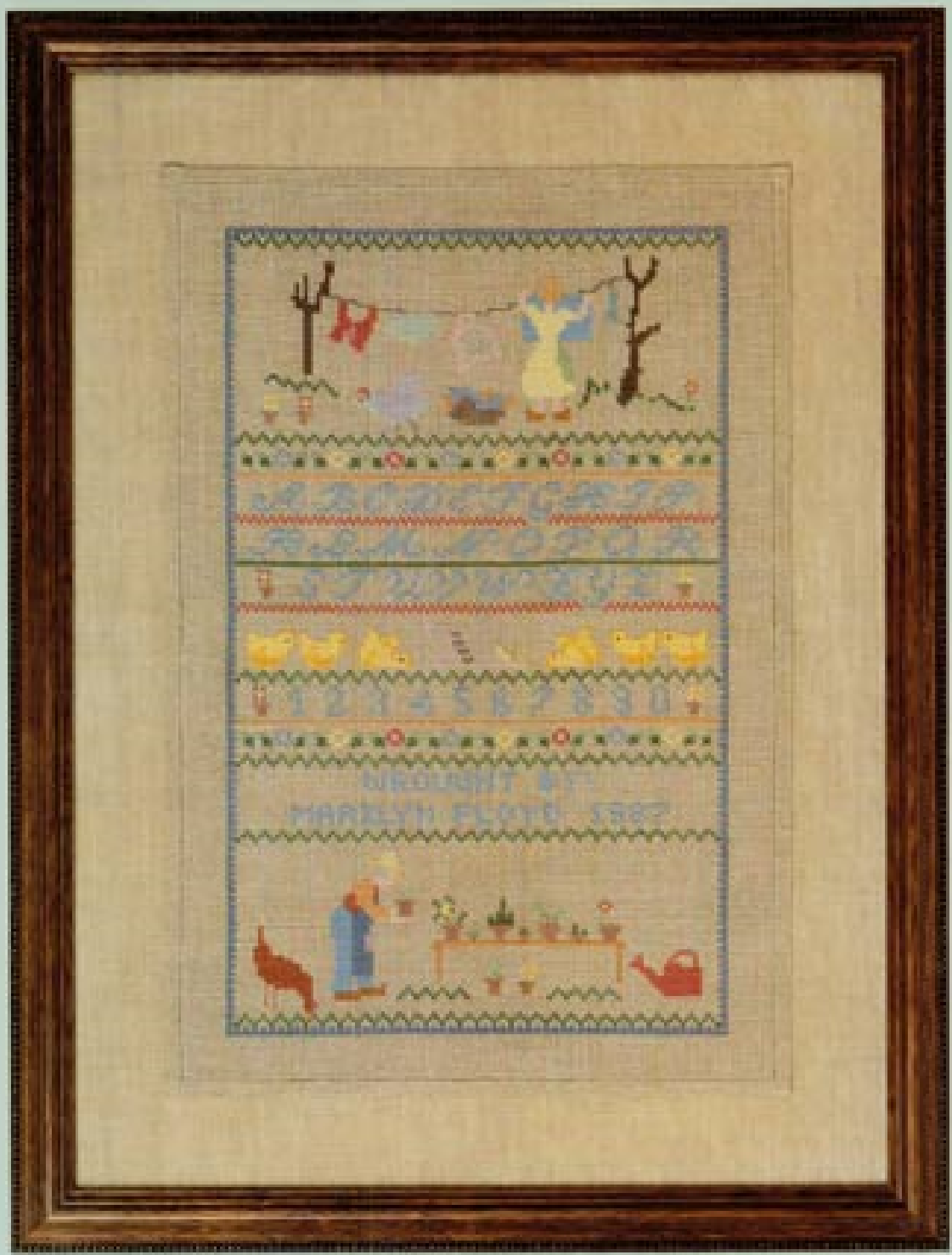
DESIGNS BY
Gloria & Pat

The Country Life Sampler

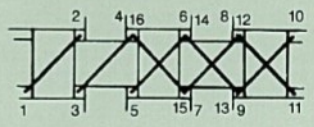


Adapted from original designs by DMC

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS
(on fabric other than linen)

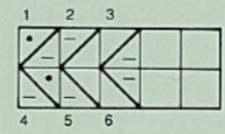
FULL CROSS STITCH

Be sure that all your stitches lay in the same direction. Bottom stitches in one direction and top stitches in the opposite direction. We work our stitches from the bottom left-hand corner to the top right-hand corner, then return in the opposite direction.

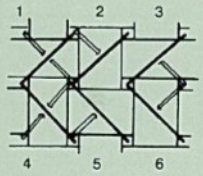


¼ STITCH

How to recognize ¼ stitches on your chart—



How ¼ stitches look on fabric—

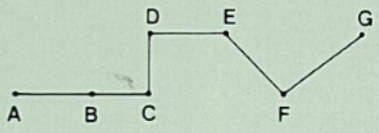


Helpful Hints: 1—Stitch from corner to center using color indicated by symbol.
2—Backstitch last in color given on instructions.

BACKSTITCHING INSTRUCTIONS

Backstitching (BS) is a part of some designs—also used for lettering. The purpose of the backstitch is to form a continuous line with each stitch touching. It may travel in any direction.

up at A — down at B
up at C — down at B
up at D — down at C
up at E — down at D
up at F — down at E
up at G — down at F



FRENCH KNOT

(Using 1 strand of Floss)

1. Come up through fabric at point A. *(Figure 1)*
2. Hold floss in your left hand. Lay your needle over floss and wrap floss 1 time going clockwise. *(Figure 2)*
3. Keep holding floss securely with left hand and insert needle near point A (not in same hole). With floss still in your left hand (to help guide floss) pull your needle through to the back of your fabric. *(Figure 3)*

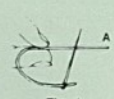


Fig. 1

Fig. 2

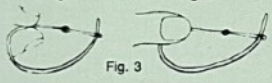


Fig. 3

BASIC DIFFERENCES

Aida	Linen
1—Interlocked threads (tight)	1—Interwoven threads (loose)
2—Count squares (1 square = 1 stitch)	2—Count threads (1 stitch covers 4 threads)
3—Begin in bottom left hole of square	3—Begin left of vertical thread (see fig. 3)
4—May use hoop	4—No hoop used (hoop distorts fabric)

For more about linen technique, ask for *Linen Stitches* by Ginnie Thompson at your nearest needlecraft store.

The contents of this book have been prepared and presented in good faith, with every effort to be accurate. However, the possibility of human error, printing mistakes or the variation of individual stitching does exist, and we regret that we cannot be responsible for this.

First Printing
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SPECIAL LINEN INSTRUCTIONS

Thanks to Ginnie Thompson for the following instructions.

YOU WILL LOVE WORKING ON LINEN! In the natural progression of cross stitching, you may have begun on an even-weave cotton fabric where one "square" on the cloth equalled one stitch. A first project may have been a tiny flower or heart. Next , most stitchers experience a period in which sayings are popular, each done with a particular person in mind. Then, we go on to projects both useful and beautiful: pillows, clothing accents, birth and wedding samplers, etc.

Then—**LINEN!** This is the stuff heirlooms are made of. Linen is durable; it has a strength that will outlast cotton. It allows greater flexibility of design. It launders and becomes more beautiful each time. And it is the best; elegant and traditional.

TIPS FOR STITCHING ON LINEN

RAVELING

Use one strand of a light color to whip the edges of the fabric to prevent raveling.

HOOPLESS STITCHING

Fig. 1

Cross Stitch on linen does not require an embroidery hoop. Instead, the hand is held in a relaxed position with the thumb and forefinger grasping the cloth and the little finger anchoring it (see fig. 1). On a tiny piece of fabric, it may be necessary to anchor with the ring finger. However, do not sew with the fabric wrapped over one finger—this may distort the stitches.

KNOTLESS WASTE KNOT

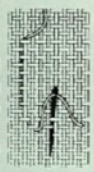
Fig. 2

Start with a knotless waste knot. This means to leave the tail of the thread on top of the fabric, up and out of the way (as in fig. 2). When the thread is finished, work it under stitches on the back, either in the direction of the stitches or vertically. Then rethread the original tail and work it under stitches on the back in the same way.

THE FIRST STITCH

Fig. 3

The first stitch and all subsequent regular stitches should begin at a VERTICAL thread. Why? The vertical threads (shown as shaded in fig. 3) act as little goal posts holding up the understitch. At the intersection where the vertical thread lays on top of the horizontal thread, start at the lower left hole. Starting at a vertical thread acts as an early warning system, also. Should a regular stitch suddenly begin at a horizontal thread, it is a sign that threads have been counted incorrectly.

SEWING MOTION

Fig. 4

A sewing stitch, one scooping movement in and out is used with linen. (See fig. 4) Stitches should be neither loose and sloppy nor so tight that the spaces between the linen threads are enlarged. If light can be seen across the top of a row of stitches, the tension is too tight. Correct tension results in flat stitches that do not distort the background weave.

Do the bottom stitches first, then cross back (see fig. 5). The reverse side will be vertical lines, as in fig. 6.

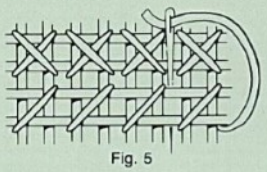
Fig. 5

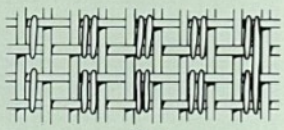
Fig. 6

180 DEGREES

It is very helpful sometimes to turn your work upside down (180 degrees), turning the chart as well, but never turn the work only halfway around (90 degrees). This causes the direction of the top stitch to change, disrupting the texture of the finished piece.

LAUNDERING

Launder your needlework only if it has become soiled. If it is clean, lay it face down on the ironing board and wet it with a sprayer or a damp cloth, then iron dry. This allows the linen to shrink slightly, making the stitches stand up beautifully. If soap is required, hand wash with mild soap in cold water. Rinse thoroughly, handling the fabric gently; roll it in a towel and gently squeeze out excess moisture, then iron dry face down.

MOUNTING

Mount your finished needlework as you would mount cotton fabrics. You'll discover, as you explore the world of linen stitching, that linen is extremely versatile and can be finished in a variety of ways other than framing.

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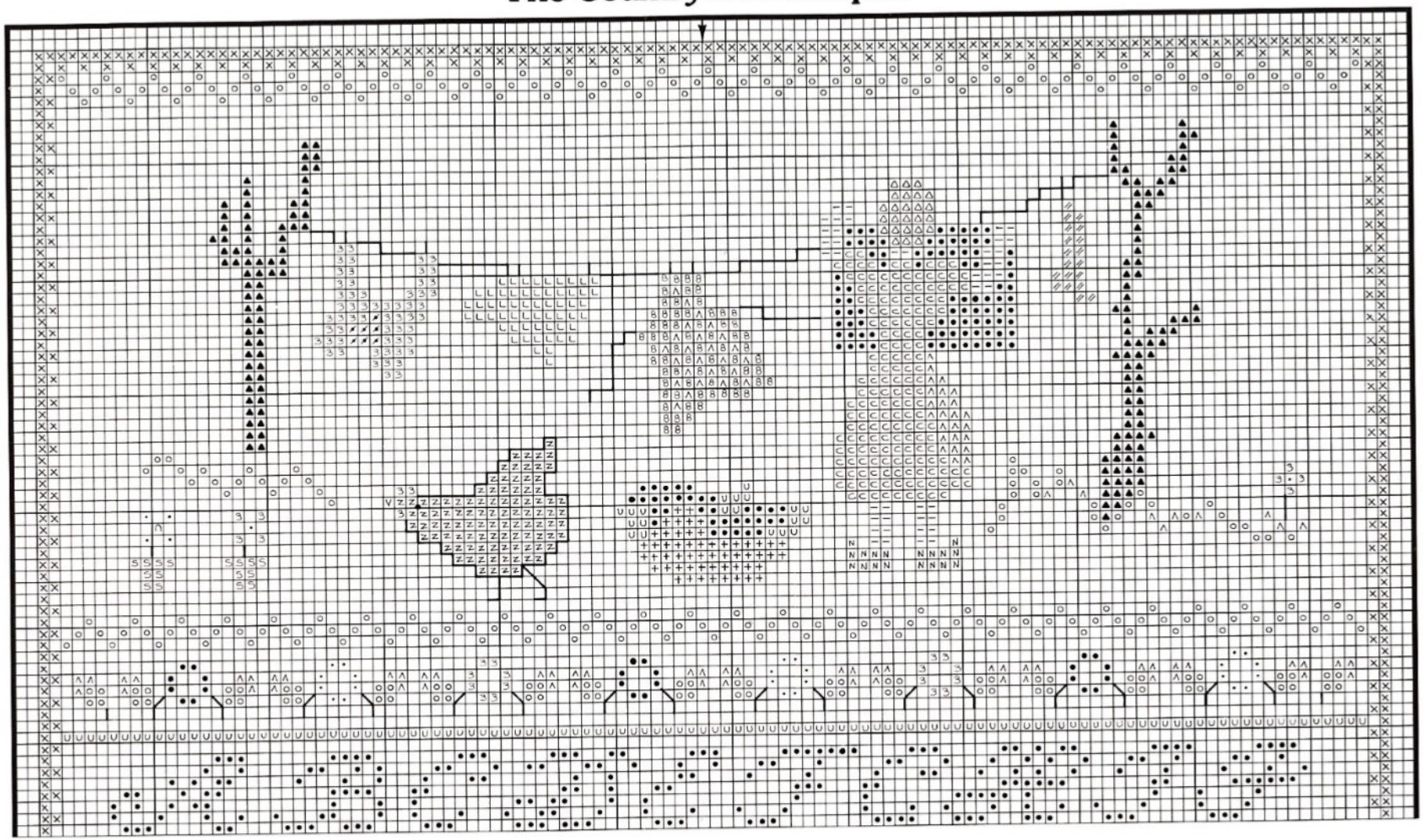
50MCP50M188

The Country Life Sampler



DMC	DMC	DMC	DMC	DMC
⊂ 745	8 761	△ 437	o 320	433
· 744	✓ 760	= 436	L 504	414
∩ 742	3 3328	N 435	● 932	317
\ 677	6 3042	U 402	X 931	
▽ 676	/ 842	I 301	Z 415	
S 407	+ 841	V 977	// 927	
– 754	▲ 840	Λ 368	839	

Note: French knot—wrap floss 1 time.
Chicken's eye—Make a French knot in 317.
Backstitch feet on chicken in 414.
Backstitch chicken in same color as stitched. (backstitch optional)
Backstitch clothespins in 435.
Backstitch clothesline in 317.
Backstitch apron strings in 760.
Backstitch flower stems in 320.

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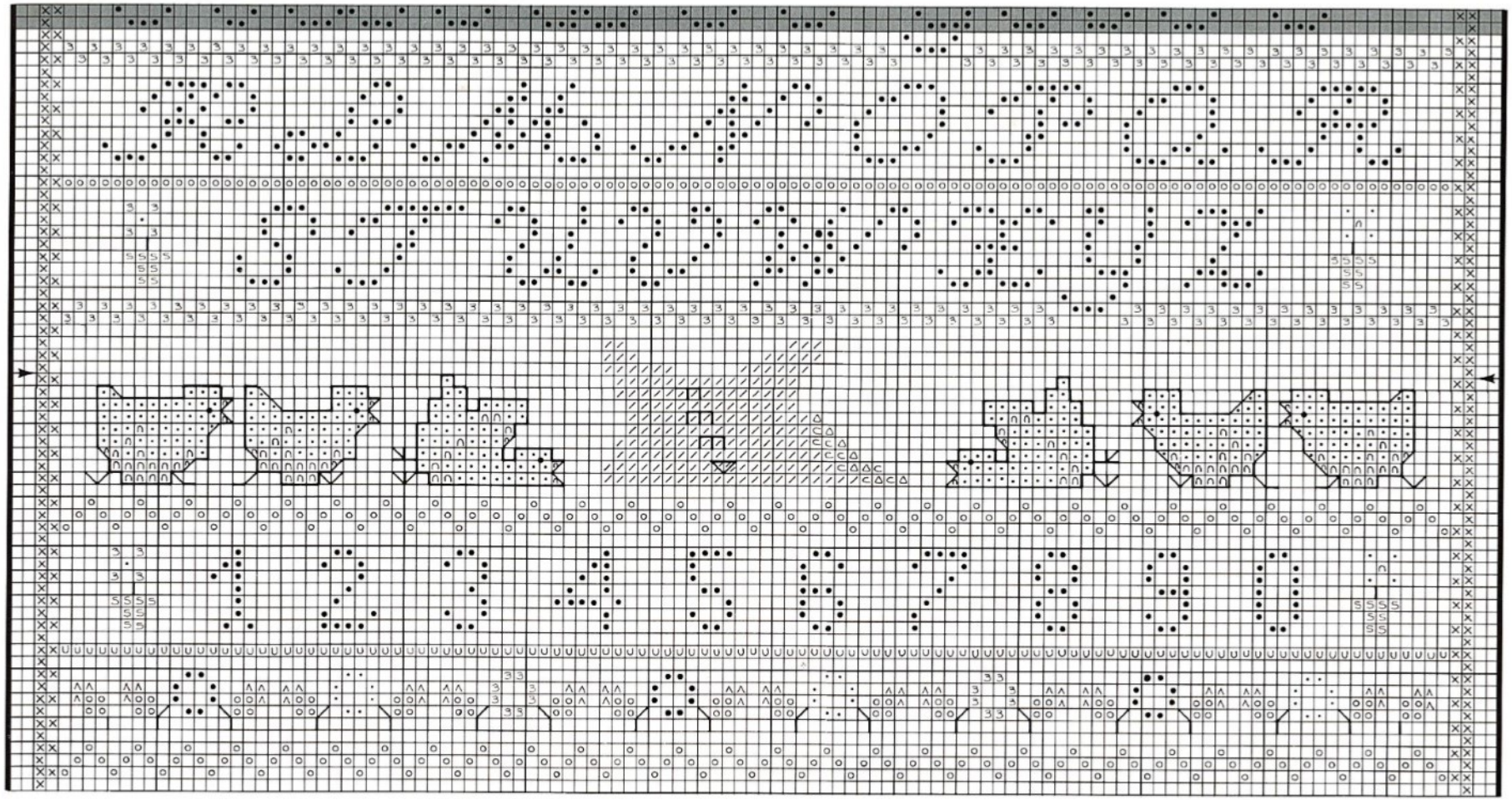
Shaded area indicates last two rows stitched on previous page.



DMC	DMC	DMC	DMC	DMC
⊂ 745	8 761	△ 437	o 320	433
· 744	✗ 760	= 436	L 504	414
∩ 742	3 3328	N 435	• 932	317
\ 677	6 3042	U 402	X 931	
▽ 676	/ 842	I 301	Z 415	
S 407	+ 841	V 977	// 927	
– 754	▲ 840	Λ 368	839	

Note: French knot—wrap floss 1 time.
Baby chicks' eyes—Make French knots in 433.
Backstitch chicks in 742.
Backstitch flower stems in 320.
Backstitch lettering on feed sack in 839.

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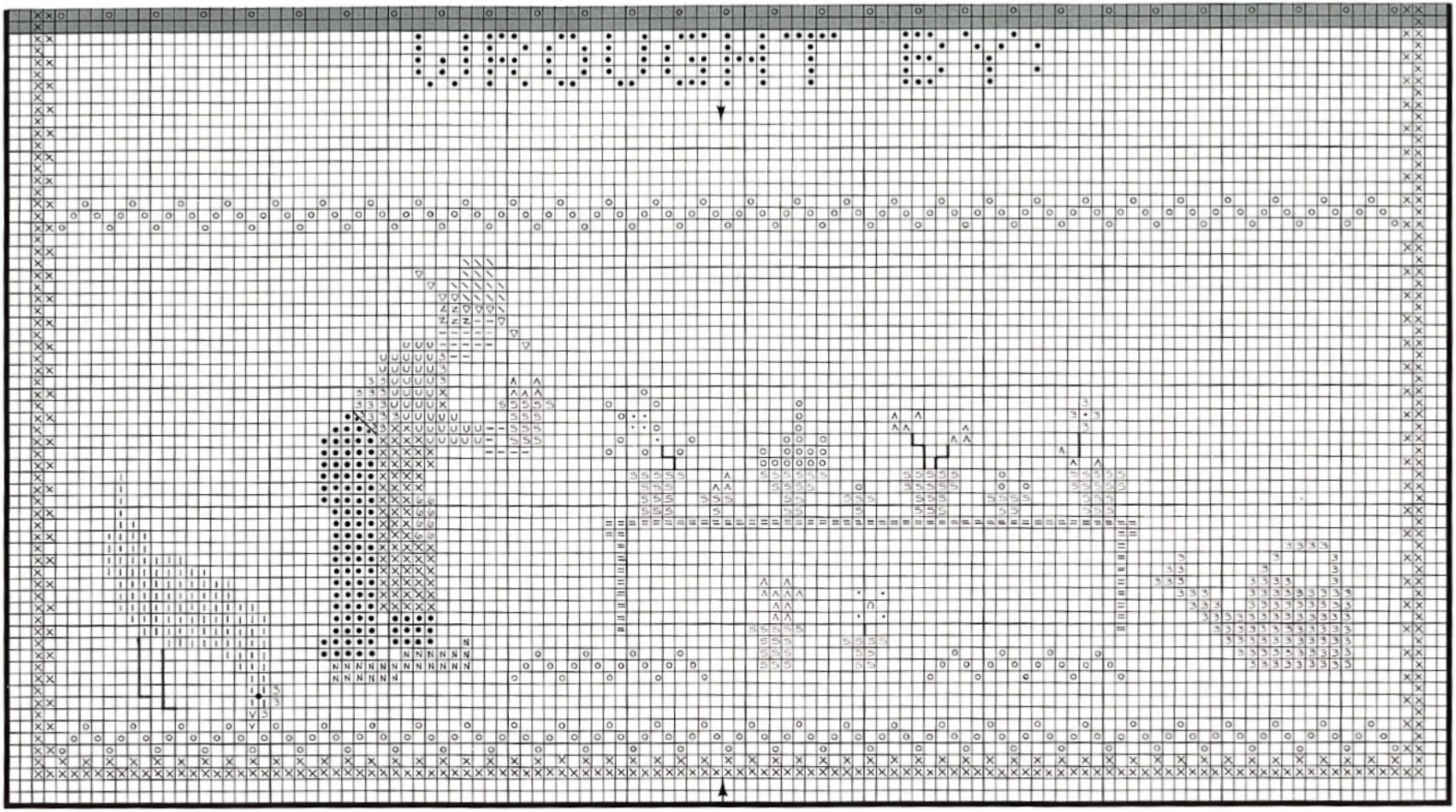
Shaded area indicates last two rows stitched on previous page.



DMC	DMC	DMC	DMC	DMC
⊂ 745	8 761	△ 437	○ 320	433
• 744	✗ 760	= 436	L 504	414
∩ 742	3 3328	N 435	● 932	317
\ 677	6 3042	U 402	X 931	
▽ 676	/ 842	I 301	Z 415	
S 407	+ 841	V 977	// 927	
– 754	▲ 840	Λ 368	839	

Note: Center name and year at arrow leaving five spaces between first and last name. Leave seven spaces between last name and year.
Note: French knot—wrap floss 1 time.
Chicken's eye—Make a French knot in 839.
Backstitch chicken's legs in 301.
Backstitch flower stems in 320.
Backstitch on man in 931.

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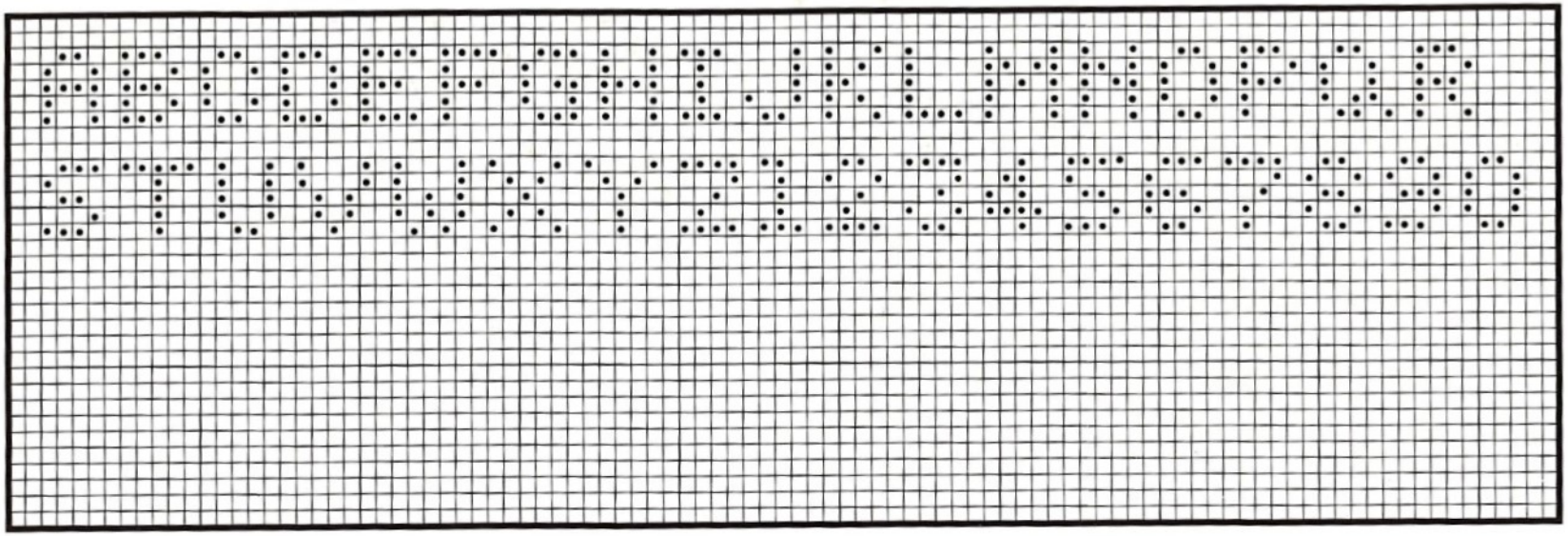

DMC	COLOR
⊂ 745	Yellow—Lt. Pale
• 744	Yellow—Pale
∩ 742	Tangerine—Lt.
\ 677	Old Gold—Vy. Lt.
▽ 676	Old Gold—Lt.
S 407	Sportsman Flesh—Dk.
– 754	Peach Flesh—Lt.
8 761	Salmon—Lt.
✗ 760	Salmon
3 3328	Salmon—Med.
6 3042	Antique Violet—Lt.
/ 842	Beige Brown—Vy. Lt
+ 841	Beige Brown—Lt.
▲ 840	Beige Brown—Med.
△ 437	Tan—Lt.
= 436	Tan
N 435	Brown—Vy. Lt.
U 402	Mahogany—Vy. Lt.
I 301	Mahogany—Med.
Y 977	Golden Brown—Lt.
Λ 368	Pistachio Green—Lt.
o 320	Pistachio Green—Med.
L 504	Blue Green—Lt.
● 932	Antique Blue—Lt.
X 931	Antique Blue—Med.
Z 415	Pearl Grey
// 927	Grey Green—Med.
839	Beige Brown—Dk.
433	Brown—Med.
414	Steel Grey—Dk.
317	Pewter Grey

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Note: Read special instructions.

Note: Center name and year at arrow leaving five spaces between first and last name. Leave seven spaces between last name and year.

Note: French knot—wrap floss 1 time.

Baby chicks' eyes—Make French knots in 433.
Grey chicken's eye—Make a French knot in 317.
Brown chicken's eye—Make a French knot in 839.
Backstitch chicks in 742.
Backstitch feet on grey chicken in 414.
Backstitch grey chicken in same color as stitched. (backstitch optional)
Backstitch brown chicken's legs in 301.
Backstitch clothespins in 435.
Backstitch clothesline in 317.
Backstitch apron strings in 760.
Backstitch flower stems in 320.
Backstitch on man in 931.
Backstitch lettering on feed sack in 839.

Design Area ..... 193 × 117	Size To Cut Fabric
Hardanger . 9⅛ × 5½	16 × 12
Aida 18 .... 11⅛ × 6⅝	18 × 13
Aida 14 .... 14¼ × 8½	21 × 15
Aida 11 .... 18¼ × 10⅞	25 × 17
Linen 30 ct. 13¼ × 8 (up 2 threads, over 2 threads)	20 × 14

Models
Fabrics: 30 ct. Natural Linen (Front cover)
18 ct. Beige Aida (Back cover)
18 & 14 ct. Rustico
14 ct. Beige Aida fingertip towel
26 ct. Ivory Sal-Em (hand towel)
(up 2 threads-over 2 threads)
Floss: Cross Stitch 2 strands
Backstitch 1 strand

Front cover model finished and framed by:
Creative Chris Cross
3316 Washington Rd.
Martinez, GA 30907

Supplies used in this leaflet are courtesy of:
Towel ..... Carolina Cross Stitch
Towel ..... Charles Craft, Inc.
Linen ..... Ginnie Thompson Guild
Aida & Rustico ..... Joan Toggitt Ltd.
Wash Board ..... Wheatland Crafts

A Boy's First Sampler

A Girl's First Sampler

A Sampler of Love

Available at your local needlecraft store.

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